

Amendment and Response

Applicant: Jong-Hoon Oh

Serial No.: 10/672,118

Filed: September 26, 2003

Docket No.: I331.111.101

Title: RANDOM ACCESS MEMORY HAVING DRIVER FOR REDUCED LEAKAGE CURRENT

REMARKS

The following remarks are made in response to the Office Action mailed September 22, 2004. Claims 1-7, 9-14, 16-22, and 24-27 were rejected. Claims 8, 15, and 23 have been objected to. With this Response, claims 1, 5-9, 12-17, 19-24, and 26 have been amended, and claim 28 has been added. Claims 1-28 remain pending in the application and are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

Claim Objections

Claims 1-8 were objected to for having a minor grammatical informality. With this Amendment, this grammatical informality has been corrected as suggested by the Examiner.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9, 11-14, 16, 17, 19-22, 24, and 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by the art of Figure 1 and Figure 2.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the wordline circuit receives the positive voltage at a positive voltage node, to include receiving a negative voltage at a negative voltage node, such that wordline circuit forms a leakage path from the positive voltage node to a reference voltage node, which is different from the negative voltage node, when the decoding signal indicates the idle mode. The admitted prior art of Figure 1 and Figure 2 does not disclose forming a leakage path to a reference node different from the negative voltage node when the decoding signal indicates an idle mode. Instead, the admitted prior art of Figure 1 and Figure 2 describes forming a leakage path from the positive voltage node to the negative voltage node when the decoding signal indicates an idle mode, precisely the shortcoming addressed by the present invention. Similar limitations are included in independent claims 9, 16, 24, and 26.

Accordingly, Applicant believes the above rejection of independent claims 1, 9, 16, 24, and 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) should be withdrawn.

Dependent claims 4, 6-7, 12-14, 17, and 19-22 have been amended to provide proper antecedent basis under 35 U.S.C. § 112.

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Dependent claims 2-7, 10-14, 17-22, 25, and 27 depend directly upon independent claims 1, 9, 16, 24, and 26, respectively. Accordingly dependent claims 2-7, 10-14, 17-22, 25, and 27 are also believed allowable.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected claims 3, 10, 18, 25, and 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over the art of Fig. 1 and Fig. 2.

Claims 3, 10, 18, 25, and 27 depend directly from independent claims 1, 9, 16, 24, and 26, respectively. For the reasons stated above, Applicant believes independent claims 1, 9, 16, 24, and 26 to be in allowable form. Accordingly, Applicant believes these dependent claims to also be allowable and requests that the above rejections of claims 3, 10, 18, 25, and 27 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner objected to claims 8, 15, and 23 for being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant agrees with the Examiner's conclusions regarding patentability without necessarily agreeing with or acquiescing in the Examiner's reasoning. In particular, Applicant believes that the claims are allowable because prior art fails to teach, anticipate or render obvious the invention as claimed, independently of how the invention is paraphrased.

Accordingly, Applicant has rewritten claims 8, 15, and 23 in independent form. Allowance of these claims and the claims dependent therefrom is respectfully requested.

Added Claim

Added independent claim 28 recites a random access memory device including a wordline circuit. Applicant believes claim 28 to be allowable over the art of record.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 1-28 are in form for allowance and are not taught or suggested by the cited references. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of claims 1-28 is respectfully requested.

No fees are required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16(b)(c). However, if such fees are required, the Patent Office is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-0471.

The Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's representative at the below-listed telephone numbers to facilitate prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, in an envelope address to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 22nd day of December, 2004.

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